

## State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

MICHAEL R. STYLER Executive Director JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

## Inspection Report Minerals Regulatory Program

July 15, 2013

Mine Name: Flower Patch	Permit Number: S/039/0019		
Operator Name: Bown Stone Products Inc.	Inspection Date: July 3, 2013		
Inspector(s): Peter Brinton	<b>Time</b> : 9:45am – 10:45am		
Other Participants: Matt Bown, Bown Stone Products Inc.	Mine Status: Reclaimed		
<b>Elements of Inspection</b>	Evaluated	Comment	Enforcement
<ol> <li>Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds</li> <li>Public Safety (shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls)</li> <li>Protection of Drainages / Erosion Control</li> <li>Deleterious Material</li> <li>Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)</li> <li>Reclamation</li> <li>Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls, shafts, drill holes)</li> <li>Soils</li> <li>Revegetation</li> <li>Other</li> </ol>			
Permit fee: N/A Bond Renewal Date: To Be Determin	ned <u>B</u>	ond Amount:	\$10,000 + interest

Purpose of Inspection:

Evaluate site reclamation for bond release and to close the Division directive

## **Inspection Summary:**

Final site grading was completed in 2011, equipment has been removed, and a partial release of bond for the entire site is appropriate. No erosion was observed, nor is it anticipated. Matt said the landowner wants the existing road to remain.

Significant growth has occurred since the last inspection. Except for 1.6 acres measured by GPS from the most recently graded area (lower on the hill), vegetation is acceptable to release. Rabbitbrush has filled in areas once dominated by Russian thistle. A few weedy grasses were also found. Unmined adjacent areas are composed of cheatgrass, juniper trees, and some snakeweed, among other species. The area recommended for release will support a comparable post-mining land use. Lynn Kunzler, who formerly inspected this site, confirmed these conclusions after looking at photographs.

Lynn identified what may be an isolated knapweed sample taken from the 1.6 acre area not recommended for release (which also had a few other unidentified, non-noxious weeds. Also, the nearby Creamtime quarry has significant musk thistle growing. The operator should be aware of the potential for noxious weed infestation on the 1.6 acre area, and of weed control costs.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the earthwork part of the bond be released. Considering growth on graded areas, and the nature of vegetation on areas not disturbed by mining, it is recommended that all but 1.6 acres be fully released and that revegetation bond retained. Periodic inspection and weed control (as needed) are recommended.

Inspector's Signature

PNB:lk: pbb

cc: Gerald Wilden, landowner (P.O. Box 145, Mayfield, UT 84643)

John Blake, SITLA (jblake@sitla.gov)

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Example of revegetated areas recommended for release. The primary species is rabbitbrush. Old weed skeletons are also visible. Stitched photo.



Stitched photos of areas not recommended for release (looking generally north-northeast). Most vegetation is either old or new Russian thistle. Stitched photo.

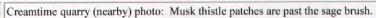
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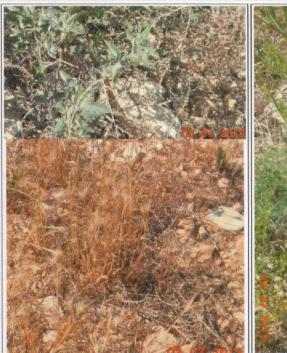
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Reclaimed (foreground with Russian thistle skeletons) and unmined (trees) areas.









Weedy species observed in unvegetated areas. The grass was found in a few reclaimed areas.

Lower end is generally <u>not</u> recommended for release; upper end is good. (looking southeast from road).